

# **EXHIBIT 155**

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

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ONE WISCONSIN INSTITUTE, INC., et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-vs-

Case No. 15-CV-324

GERALD C. NICHOL, et al.,

Defendants.

\* \* \* \* \*

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPOSITION OF SUSAN SCHILZ

Monday, April 11, 2016

8:05 a.m.

Reported by: Lisa A. Creeron, RPR

MADISON FREELANCE REPORTERS, LLC

1 DEPOSITION OF SUSAN SCHILZ, a witness in the  
2 above-entitled action, taken at the instance of the  
3 plaintiffs, under the provisions of the Federal Rules of  
4 Civil Procedure, taken pursuant to notice, before  
5 LISA A. CREERON, a Registered Professional Reporter and  
6 Notary Public in and for the State of Wisconsin, at the  
7 Wisconsin Department of Justice, 17 West Main Street, in  
8 the City of Madison, County of Dane, and State of  
9 Wisconsin, on the 11th day of April, 2016, commencing at  
10 8:05 a.m.

11  
12 A P P E A R A N C E S

13 CHARLES G. CURTIS, JR.,  
14 PERKINS COIE, LLP,  
Attorneys at Law,  
One East Main Street, Suite 201,  
15 Madison, Wisconsin 53703, appearing on  
16 behalf of the plaintiffs;

17 S. MICHAEL MURPHY,  
Assistant Attorney General,  
18 WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
17 West Main Street,  
19 Madison, Wisconsin 53703, appearing on  
behalf of the defendants.

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MADISON FREELANCE REPORTERS, LLC

1 Q I'll rephrase. What makes it so difficult?

2 A They can't find the records or they don't get back to  
3 us or they want the customer to come in person. That  
4 makes it difficult for the petition customer. So I  
5 guess that's my experience with Cook County. They're  
6 not all that helpful.

7 Q Do you agree with Mr. Miller's assumption that most,  
8 if not all, of these people are not trying to commit  
9 fraud?

10 A I do agree with that. When we first started this  
11 project, we -- I think the compliance, audit and  
12 fraud unit was involved because it's our business to  
13 find fraud, and we thought we might have people  
14 posing as someone else. And I can tell you we've not  
15 had any, which is really nice, you know.

16 Q Yeah.

17 A It's just something that we didn't anticipate.

18 Q And how many people roughly total have you worked  
19 with?

20 A Probably about 350. I believe we've adjudicated  
21 around 210 of all of the petitions filed. Some of  
22 them don't get to us because they match at DHS.

23 Q Tell me -- you raise a couple of interesting issues.  
24 You said that you've worked with about 350  
25 petitioners?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And of those 350, about 210 have been adjudicated?

3 A Yes.

4 Q To a lawyer, adjudicated sounds like a court  
5 proceeding or something. What does adjudicated mean  
6 in CAFU?

7 A The process was named in this petition project  
8 because we were confirming or adjudicating the truth  
9 from the petitioner and from an outside source that  
10 had a vital record for them. For us, it means  
11 digging through the information that's provided to  
12 us, asking different questions of the petition  
13 customer to get to the birth record or get to  
14 something that will match. So that's what I would  
15 describe it as.

16 Q And so of the 350 approximately petitions you've been  
17 involved with, you don't recall any that involved  
18 what seem like fraud?

19 A No. We had one that we thought might be. A woman  
20 that thought she was an American -- a U.S. citizen,  
21 she thought the papers had been filed for her and it  
22 turned out they were not and so there wasn't a lot we  
23 could do about her.

24 Q Sure.

25 A And I spoke with her directly and I felt that she

1           believed that her husband had helped her do that and  
2           he had not. So I don't consider -- at first it sort  
3           of looked like fraud. I didn't consider it fraud in  
4           the end. And that is the only one.

5           Q     Putting her case aside, and I remember the file  
6                 you're talking about, putting that one aside, have  
7                 you worked with any petitioners who you thought might  
8                 not be U.S. citizens?

9           A     No. Not that I can remember, no.

10          Q     Okay. Have you worked with any petitioners who you  
11                 suspected might want to commit voter fraud?

12          A     No.

13          Q     So when CAFU sends a denial letter to someone like  
14                 you've described, how do you feel about that?

15                         MR. MURPHY: Object to form. You can  
16                         answer to the extent you're able.

17          A     Honestly we feel like we have failed when we have to  
18                 send the denial. We're investigators to the core and  
19                 we want to use those skills for good and if we get to  
20                 the point where we have to deny, it means that we  
21                 haven't been able to get to the truth. And frankly,  
22                 it's been difficult on the team because they always  
23                 want to give them the voter ID, you know. They want  
24                 to finish it in a positive way. And the denial  
25                 letters are not something we really like to see. You

1 know, there's a part of us that wished we could have  
2 done more.

3 Q Do investigators ever recommend issuing an ID and  
4 then that recommendation is rejected?

5 A Yes.

6 Q When was the last time that happened to your  
7 knowledge?

8 A I can't remember the date, but the investigators when  
9 we're compiling information feel like they have  
10 enough and when it's reviewed by senior managers,  
11 they may think it isn't quite enough and it may be  
12 sent back to us. It doesn't mean a denial goes out.  
13 It might mean that, you know, we just have to try  
14 harder to hit all of the standards.

15 Q Who are the senior managers you refer to?

16 A In this process, the senior managers that are  
17 involved are Jim Miller. He's the bureau director  
18 for field services. He is the one that we would send  
19 petitions to for denial or approval. And he reviews  
20 them. And then Ann Perry is the bureau director for  
21 driver services, and she is the one -- she gets  
22 involved in the denials only, and that is to sign the  
23 letter. So both of them review all of the denial  
24 cases, but Jim reviews cases that are brought forward  
25 for issuance for extraordinary proof.

1       STATE OF WISCONSIN     )  
2                                     )     ss.  
3       COUNTY OF DANE        )

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5               I, LISA A. CREERON, a Registered Professional  
6       Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of  
7       Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a  
8       true record of the deposition of SUSAN SCHILZ, who was  
9       first duly sworn by me; having been taken on the 11th day  
10      of April, 2016, at the Wisconsin Department of Justice,  
11      17 West Main Street, in the City of Madison, County of  
12      Dane, and State of Wisconsin, in my presence, and reduced  
13      to writing in accordance with my stenographic notes made  
14      at said time and place.

15             I further certify that I am not a relative  
16      or employee or attorney or counsel for any of the  
17      parties, or a relative or employee of such attorney  
18      or counsel, or financially interested in said action.

19             In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand  
20      and affixed my seal of office this 18th day of April,  
21      2016.

22  
23                                     \_\_\_\_\_  
24                                     Notary Public, State of Wisconsin  
25                                     My Commission Expires: 1/29/17

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